

In re Application of:
Jens Heydecke and Masanori Muranushi
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/524,737 corresponding to:
International Application No. PCT/EP03/09030
International Filing Date: August 14, 2003
Claiming a priority date of August 28, 2002;

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REGENERATING AN ELECTROLESS
METAL PLATING BATH

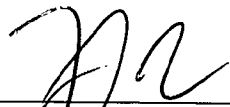
Mail Stop Amendment
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST- CLASS MAILING

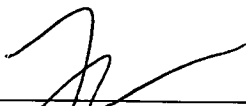
I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited today with the United States postal service as first class postage-prepaid mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

9/9/05
Date


Frank J. Bonini, Jr.
Reg. No. 33,452

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper and during the pendency of this application to Account No. 05-0208.


Frank J. Bonini, Jr.
Reg. No. 33,452

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

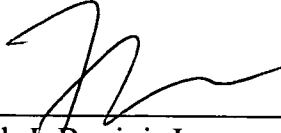
Applicant submits herewith for filing, the following document:

1. A 2 page Form PTO 1449;
2. A 4 page Information Disclosure Statement;

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3. Copies of cited references; and
4. A copy of the Preliminary Examination Report

Respectfully submitted,
Harding, Earley, Follmer & Frailey



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Date: 9/9/05



U.S Application Serial No. 10/524,737
Information Disclosure Statement
Dated: September 7, 2005

B-7222

In re Application of:
Jens Heydecke and Masanori Muranushi
Serial No.: 10/524,737
National Phase Application in the United States corresponding to:
International Application No. PCT/EP03/09030;
International Filing Date: August 14, 2003;
Claiming a priority date of August 28, 2002;
For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR REGENERATING AN ELECTROLESS
METAL PLATING BATH

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

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Date

Frank J. Bonini
Reg. No. 35,452

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant is aware of the following references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, and encloses copies thereof.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| <u>PATENT NO.</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>INVENTOR</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 6,379,517 B1 | 04/30/2002 | Heydecke et al. |

| | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 6,245,389 B1 | 06/12/2001 | Horikawa et al. |
| 5,419,821 | 05/30/1995 | Vaughan |
| 5,221,328 | 06/22/1993 | Bishop et al. |

FOREIGN PATENTS DOCUMENTS

| <u>PATENT NO.</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>TRANSLATION</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| DE 198 49 278 C1 | 07/06/2000 | Germany | Yes |
| DE 43 10 366 C1 | 10/13/1994 | Germany | No |
| DE 198 51 180 C1 | 04/20/2000 | Germany | No |
| EP 0 787 829 A1 | 08/06/1997 | Europe | No |
| FR 2 189 523 | 01/25/1974 | France | No |
| WO 94/12439 A1 | 06/09/1994 | U.S. | Yes |
| WO 00/23637 | 04/27/2000 | Germany | Yes |

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Yoshio Kuboi, Okuno Chemical Industries Co., Ltd, "*Extension of Bath Life by Electrodialysis Method at Electroless Nickel Plating Bath*," Electroless Nickel '89, pages 16-1 through 16-15.

C. D. Lacovangelo, "*Continuous In-Situ Regeneration of Electroless Nickel Baths During Powder Plating*" Plating and Surface Finishing, September 1995, Pages 77-82.

ENVIRO CP Method of Martin Marietta, U.S.A. 8 pages.

DATABASE COMPENDEX [Online] ENGINEERING INFORMATION, INC. NEW YORK, NY; US RENZ R P ET AL: "In-process recycling of a hexavalent chromium plating bath" XP002260386 Database accession no. EIX99454777298, June 1999, 1 page.

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the documents listed in this Information Disclosure Statement be considered by the Examiner in this patent application and made of record therein.

WO 00/23637 is not in the English language, but Applicant submits corresponding family patent US 6,379,517 B1.

The relevance of DE 19849278, C1, which is not in the English language, is referred to in the Applicant's specification, at page 6, line 25 - page 7, line 4, and this patent corresponds to U.S. family patent 6,379,517.

The relevance of FR 2189523, which is not in the English language, is that it was cited on the International Search Report as a category "Y" document, and referred to in the Preliminary Examination Report as mentioning "the possibility of further concentrating specific unwanted components (like nickel) resulting from the retentate of a reverse osmosis step by means of an ion exchanger and later on recycle the components into the bath. No concentrate circuit is disclosed."

The relevance of DE 19851180 C1, which is not in the English language, is that it was cited on the International Search Report as a category "A" document, defining the general state of the art.

The relevance of DE 4310366, which is not in the English language is referred to in Applicant's specification at, page 4, line 16 - page 5, line 14.

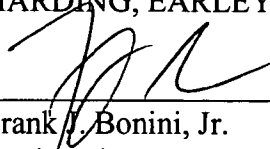
The relevance of EP 0 787 829 A1, which is not in the English language is referred to in Applicant's specification, at page 5, line 15 - page 6, line 23.

U.S Application Serial No. 10/524,737
Information Disclosure Statement
Dated: September 7, 2005

B-7222

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be
required to Patent Office Deposit Account No. 05-0208.

Respectfully submitted,
HARDING, EARLEY, FOLLMER & FRAILEY



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

SEP 1 2 2005

ATTY DOCKET NO.

B-7222

APPLICATION NO.

10/524,737

APPLICANT(S)

Jens Heydecke and Masanori Muranushi

FILING DATE

02/16/2005

GROUP ART UNIT

1753 1795

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| /A.P./ | 6,379,517 B1 | 04/30/2002 | Heydecke et al. | | | |
| /A.P./ | 6,245,389 B1 | 06/12/2001 | Horikawa et al. | | | |
| /A.P./ | 5,419,821 | 05/30/1995 | Vaughan | | | |
| /A.P./ | 5,221,328 | 06/22/1993 | Bishop et al. | | | |
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U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--------|------------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| /A.P./ | DE 198 49 278 C1 | 07/06/2000 | Germany | | | ✓ | |
| /A.P./ | DE 43 10 366 C1 | 10/13/1994 | Germany | | | | ✓ |
| /A.P./ | DE 198 51 180 C1 | 04/20/2000 | Germany | | | | ✓ |
| /A.P./ | EP 0 787 829 A1 | 08/06/1997 | Europe | | | | ✓ |
| /A.P./ | FR 2 189 523 | 01/25/1974 | France | | | | ✓ |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | |
|--------|--|
| /A.P./ | Yoshio Kuboi, Okuno Chemical Industries Co., Ltd. "Extension of Bath Life by Electrodialysis Method at Electroless Nickel Plating Bath," Electroless Nickel '89, pages 16-1 through 16-15. |
| /A.P./ | C.D. Lacovangelo, "Continuous In-Situ Regeneration of Electroless Nickel Baths During Powder Plating" Plating and Surface Finishing, September 1995, Pages 77-82. |

EXAMINER

/Arun Phasge/

DATE CONSIDERED

8/25/08

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

